



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

May 18, 2000

H.R. 3852

A bill to extend the deadline for commencement of the construction of a hydroelectric project in the state of Alabama

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Commerce on May 17, 2000

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 3852 would have no net effect on the federal budget. The legislation contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

H.R. 3852 would extend the deadline for construction of a hydroelectric project currently subject to licensing by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for six years. The proposed extension is for FERC project number 7115. H.R. 3852 also would direct FERC to reinstate the license for the project should it expire prior to enactment of this bill. These provisions may have a minor impact on FERC's workload. Because FERC recovers 100 percent of its costs through user fees, any change in its administrative costs would be offset by an equal change in the fees that the commission charges. Hence, the bill's provisions would have no net budgetary impact.

Because FERC's administrative costs are limited in annual appropriations, enactment of this bill would not affect direct spending or receipts. Therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply to H.R. 3852.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Lisa Cash Driskill. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.